THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) to (c) There is no such report available with the Government which indicates that one lakh acre land in the country is turned infertile every year. However, the Department of Land Resources in the Ministry of Rural Development is implementing Integrated Wastelands Development Programme (IWDP) for development of waste land/degraded land on watershed basis in the country. Since 1.4.1995, 1225 projects under the Programme have been sanctioned in 28 States for treatment of an area of 78.28 lakh hectares at a total cost of Rs. 4331.06 crores till date. An amount of Rs. 1714.57 crores have been released in various instalments to the Programme States so far.

Proposal under SGSY from Kerala

1084. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY:
SHRI THENNALA G. BALAKRISHNA PILLAI:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of proposals received by the Central Government from the State Governments of Karnataka and Kerala under the Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the details of proposals cleared by the Central Government;

(c) the details of proposals still pending with the Central Government;

(d) the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time by when these pending proposals will be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) and (b) The Ministry has sanctioned 6 Projects for State of Karnataka and 5 Projects for the State of Kerala under Swamjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) Special Project since inception of the scheme *i.e.* 1.4.99 Details are enclosed at Statement-I (See below).

(c) to (e) 12 proposals are pending with the Ministry. Out of which 11 proposals have been sent to line department for technical comments. On receipt of comments from these departments, the proposals will be considered as per the prescribed procedure. One project of Kerala relating to handloom sector would be put up before the next meeting of the Project Approval Committee (PAC) for sanctioning. The details are given in Statement-I I (See below).